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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**INFORMATION REPORT**REPORT 

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SUBJECT Position of Boris Kidric

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1. There has been a good deal of speculation lately among government officials as to why Boris Kidric has recently become the subject of rather scathing attacks in the Party controlled press.<sup>1</sup> The reason usually given is that the results of his economic development policy for the Vojvodina and Serbia have failed to satisfy the Central Committee of the Communist Party. As President of the Federal Planning Commission he was responsible for the economic plans of these two areas.
2. The first Five Year plan for the Vojvodina and Serbia overestimated the arable land by 300,000 acres. As a result not only did members of collective farms and private cooperatives have to hand over the whole of their produce at compulsory sale without profit, but they had to buy cereals in the open market to fulfill the excessive quotas assessed them. This caused unrest and absenteeism which was countered by confiscation of the goods of private individuals involved and imprisonment for those members of collective farms who had no private property.
3. Investment of the public money gained from the agricultural plan for Serbia and the Vojvodina has also been the subject of much adverse comment. One of the projects financed by this money was the collection of buildings known as New Belgrade. Most of this project has had to be left half built because of the bad site chosen (the swamps of the Sava river) and poor construction of foundations.
4. In the second economic plan the same over assessment of grain producing areas happened with corresponding loss of expected capital for investment.

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5. Recent criticism of Kidric's part in these operations has pointed out the difference between per capita investment in Slovenia and Croatia, and in Serbia and the Vojvodina. Re-investment has been 1,600 dinars per capita in Slovenia and 1,500 in Croatia, while in Serbia and the Vojvodina, which contain the richest farm land in the country and thus might be expected to show the greatest profit, the rate has been only 600 dinars per capita annually.
6. It is rumored that Major General Svetozer Vukmanovic is to replace Kidric on Vukmanovic's return from a three month tour of the U. S. where he is surveying aspects of the American economic system.<sup>2</sup>

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Comment: Vukmanovic's visit in the U. S. was from 8 February to 21 March 1952. Although it is now more than five months later the developments speculated on in this report have not occurred. It might be noted however that Vukmanovic was appointed by the Central Committee of the Party to a commission to draft amendments and changes in the statutes of the Yugoslav Communist Party for the Sixth Congress to be held 19 October 1952. Also another government agency reported 2 June 1952 that a two-month long discussion in the Yugoslav Economic Council had terminated in victory for a faction headed by Vukmanovic which favors liberalization; one Yugoslav official attributed this to "American influence".

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